

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims listed below replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the manufacture of an in-press coated composite substrate, comprising:

- (a) applying a sealing layer of an aqueous coating composition to a surface of a compressible mat ~~comprising fibers, chips or particles and a resin, wherein the mat comprises a resin and one or more of fibers, chips or particles;~~
  - (b) compressing the mat and applied sealing layer of coating composition between heated metal surfaces in a press; and
  - (c) releasing the compressed, coated composite substrate from the press;
- characterized in that the sealing layer of aqueous coating composition comprises an aqueous emulsion copolymer and a ground ion exchange resin.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~fibers, chips, particles and resin used to form the mat~~ comprises one or more compositions are selected from cellulose, glass, synthetic polymers, carbon and organic or inorganic cementitious compositions and combinations thereof.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the emulsion polymer is selected from (meth)acrylic ester monomers, methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, decyl acrylate, lauryl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, butyl methacrylate, isodecyl methacrylate, lauryl methacrylate, hydroxyethyl methacrylate, hydroxypropyl methacrylate, (meth)acrylonitrile, (meth)acrylamide, amino-functional monomers, ureido-functional monomers, monomers bearing acetoacetate-functional groups, styrene, substituted styrenes, butadiene, ethylene, propylene,  $\alpha$ -olefins, 1-decene, vinyl acetate, vinyl butyrate, vinyl esters, vinyl monomers, vinyl chloride, vinylidene chloride and combinations thereof.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ion exchange resin is selected from anion exchange resins, cation exchange resins, mixed bed resins and combinations thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ion exchange resin is at least 4.71.5 percent solid ion exchange resin based on coating polymer solids.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (NEW) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ion exchange resin is at least 1.7 percent solid ion exchange resin based on coating polymer solids.